

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, Mr. President, I am going to yield some time to some of those who were not allowed to speak because of the great anxiety on this issue. Senator Johnson, I would yield a few minutes of my time although I would ask you to leave me some closing.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I do appreciate Senator Newell giving me a couple of minutes of his time. I will make it very short. I think what Senator Newell is attempting to do is a very wise policy for the reason that in the academic area in particular there is a considerable of just basic rivalry within departments for the little fringe benefits, the small crumbs that come departments ways and that kind of rivalry can be extraordinarily intense and actually can be relatively destructive of the kind of work that we would hope would take place in a university community. It seems to me that we make a very wise decision to eliminate at least through this bill the possibility of a rivalry occurring over who is to receive or who is not to receive this very small amount of money, this discretionary money. Now in fact on a salary of \$16,000 per year we are really talking about \$480 a year. I mean it is a minute amount of money. It is \$40 a month to an academic, hardly worth scrapping over, and yet I can guarantee you it will be scrapped over very..at great lengths in the departments in our several universities. I think we should avoid this unfortunate occurrence, and for that reason I would support the amendment. I don't think there is a definitional problem, incidentally, because in fact through collective bargaining agreements there have been...who is a professional and who is not a professional has been pretty carefully defined. In terms of the non-binding nature of the bill I understand that probably is correct, nonetheless, I think it is very important for the Legislature to express its point of view on this particular point. In terms of using discretionary money to take care of the underpaid female academics, I don't think that the way to do it is to take the money from the underpaid male academics to bring the worse underpaid female academics up to their standard. The way to handle it is through a special appropriation to take care of that problem and I would hope that we would do that next year. I do support the Newell amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Newell, you have two minutes.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, I would if I had more time ask Senator Warner just how much this fund has been. This year it is three percent, and in previous years, it has